

**UNITED STATES BANKRUPTCY COURT  
WESTERN DISTRICT OF LOUISIANA**

**IN RE:**

**TERMINATION OF ORDER  
TEMPORARILY MODIFYING  
ARTICLE VII OF THE COURT'S  
ADMINISTRATIVE PROCEDURES  
WITH RESPECT TO OBTAINING  
"WET SIGNATURES" ON  
ELECTRONICALLY FILED  
DOCUMENTS**

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**GENERAL ORDER 2020-4-1**

**TERMINATION OF GENERAL ORDER  
TEMPORARILY MODIFYING ARTICLE VII OF  
THIS COURT'S ADMINISTRATIVE PROCEDURES**

1. On June 5, 2020, General Order 2020-4, entitled "General Order Temporarily Modifying Article VII of this Court's Administrative Procedures with Respect to Obtaining 'Wet Signatures' on Electronically Filed Documents" will terminate. As modified by General Order 2020-4, Article VII of the Court's Administrative Procedures read (with modifications to original Article VII appearing in bold):

**VII. RETENTION OF DOCUMENTS**

The attorney of record or the party filing any document in a bankruptcy case or Adversary Proceeding shall maintain the original signed document(s) for at least five (5) years after the case is closed. Upon request, the original document must be provided to other parties or the Court for review. *See* FRBP 9011. **The electronic filing by an attorney of a document requiring the signature of the debtor(s) may be filed without the original signature in his or her possession. By filing without having possession of the original signed document, the debtor's attorney is certifying that he or she: (i) transmitted the entire document to the debtor(s) for review and signature, (ii) communicated with the debtor(s) regarding the substance and purpose of the document, (iii) received express authorization from the debtor(s) to file the document and (iv) has obtained a representation from the debtor(s) (either by text, email, facsimile or verbally) that the debtor(s) have in fact signed the document. Additionally, within thirty (30) days after the termination of this order, the debtor's attorney must file a document with the Court**

**certifying that he or she has received the document bearing the debtor's original signature, and that such document will be maintained in accordance with this Article VII.**

2. The effective date of General Order 2020-4 was March 19, 2020. Therefore, with respect to each case in which an electronic filing by an attorney of a document requiring the signature of the debtor(s) was made during the period from March 19, 2020 through June 5, 2020, the attorney will have thirty (30) days from June 5, 2020 to file with the Court the attached Certification Regarding Retention of Documents Pursuant to Article VII of General Order 2020-4, certifying that he or she has received the document bearing the debtor's original signature, and that such document will be maintained in accordance with Article VII of this Court's Administrative Procedures.<sup>1</sup>

DATED: June 5, 2020

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
JOHN W. KOLWE  
UNITED STATES BANKRUPTCY JUDGE

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<sup>1</sup> The Clerk of the Bankruptcy Court has established an "Event Code" in CM/ECF for filing the Certification. It is entitled: Certification re Wet Signatures.

**United States Bankruptcy Court  
Western District of Louisiana**

Judge: \_\_\_\_\_

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IN RE: \_\_\_\_\_  
Debtor(s)

Chapter: \_\_  
Case Number: \_\_\_\_\_

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**CERTIFICATION REGARDING RETENTION OF DOCUMENTS  
PURSUANT TO ARTICLE VII OF GENERAL ORDER 2020-4**

I, \_\_\_\_\_, counsel for the debtor(s) in the above captioned case, hereby certify under penalty of perjury that for any document filed on behalf of the debtor(s) in this case without having the original signature(s) in my possession at the time, pursuant to Article VII of the Court's March 19, 2020 General Order 2020-4 ("General Order Temporarily Modifying Article VII of This Court's Administrative Procedures"), I:

- (i) transmitted the entire document to the debtor(s) for review and signature,
- (ii) communicated with the debtor(s) regarding the substance and purpose of the document,
- (iii) received express authorization from the debtor(s) to file the document, and
- (iv) have obtained a representation from the debtor(s) (either by text, email, facsimile or verbally) that the debtor(s) has (have) in fact signed the document.

Furthermore, I hereby certify that I have now received from the debtor(s) the document(s) bearing the original signature of the debtor(s) and will maintain such document(s) in accordance with Article VII of the Court's Administrative Procedures.

/s/ \_\_\_\_\_